Application No.: Not Yet Assigned 4 Docket No.: 449122082400

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Please replace the claims, including all prior versions, with the listing of claims below.

## **LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently amended) A method for ensuring the <u>a</u> same order of messages in a plurality of data sinks (DS), <u>comprising</u>:

a plurality of data sources (DQ) transmitting data messages to the data sinks (DS) in parallel and independently of one another[[,]]; and

eharacterized in that a clock-generator (TG), predefining in constant cycle times, for example 50 ms, predefines for all the data sources, (DQ) a consecutive clock generator number (TG-Nr.) which is transmitted together with a message counting number (TZ) that is consecutive during the cycle time and with the message content (N) to all the data sinks (DS).

- 2. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that wherein the data sinks (DS) sort the received messages after the reception of a specific number of different clock generator numbers (TG-Nr.), for example five clock generator numbers (TG-Nr.), according to the clock generator number (TG-Nr.), the sender address and the message counting number (TZ).
- 3. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that claims 1, further comprising synchronizing the clock generators using a central clock generator, the cycle time of which is a multiple of the cycle time of the clock generators, synchronizes the clock generators, each data source (DQ) being assigned a dedicated clock generator.